

Minnesota MUFON Journal

Issue #108 July/Aug. 2004

Directors Report

Must We Stand Idly By? by Dick Moss, MN MUFON State Dir.

Ron Westrum, PhD, is a Professor of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Technology at Eastern Michigan University and contributed a chapter to the book *UFOs and Abductions*, edited by Dr. David Jacobs.

He was a speaker at the 1976 MUFON Symposium in Ann Arbor, Michigan and what follows is a brief account of certain elements in his presentation.

Dr. Westrum's premise was that visual and radar sightings, along with physical effects, do not support the notion that the phenomenon results from psychological or social causes.

In relation to modern life, UFOs and everything connected with them is an anomaly and is something that should not be happening. Because of this, there are reasonable people who do not believe in the reality of UFOs but that UFO reports are the fruits of imagination and fraud.

One idea of the nature of UFOs is the "extraterrestrial theory." UFOs are from another planet and the occupants are a race of beings more intelligent than mankind.

A problem with this theory has to do with the great variety of vehicles and occupants that have been seen. It's as if we are dealing with a society consisting of both custom-made creatures and spacecraft. There is also the issue of psychic effects associated with sightings that tend to reflect human culture in some way.

The "collective unconscious theory" goes back to psychoanalyst Carl Jung.. UFOs may be physical but, like poltergeist phenomena, are dependent upon human beings. UFOs, then, are a psychic projection caused by psychic conflicts within the human race.

The main problem here is lack of evidence. If UFO waves are caused by human psychic conflicts, we ought to be able to discern that, when conflicts increase, UFO waves should also increase. During the Depression there was intense psychic turmoil but little UFO activity. The French UFO wave of 1954 should have been preceded with intense psychic turmoil. If so, what was it?

The "control system theory" was proposed by Jacques Vallee. It maintains that UFO phenomena are the result of a control system similar to a thermostat. Human evolution is being guided toward goals programmed into the system. The origin of this system is unknown.



Minnesota Mufon Meetings

Sat., July 10th
1:30-5pm
&
Sat., August 14th
1:30-5pm

New Brighton Family Service Center
400 - 10th St. NW
(located 1/4-mile S.W. of Hwy 694 and 35W.)

PARK FREE!

The building is designated as non-smoking.

See map on back cover

(Note: The building has no special security, so you can come and go as you please and smoke outdoors. There are elevators for those who may need them.)

The control system theory also suffers from a lack of evidence. If we are being subjected to "conditioning" we should be able to show that UFO manifestations increase after certain kinds of human events. But, what kind of behavior is being reinforced? It might be true that the UFO presence has changed some of our beliefs and altered our society in minor ways. But this observation is also compatible with the other theories.

John Keel has proposed that UFOs are but one manifestation of a "superspectrum" which also produces occult phenomena. Human interaction with this field is responsible for UFO events.

This theory appealed to Dr. Westrum. Perhaps humans have psychic powers which can be stimulated by UFO events in the same way that UFOs affect television screens. When subjected to these forces people might become psychically active. One problem with this theory is that UFOs themselves often seem to be psychic manifestations.

Dr. Westrum suggested that UFOs pose a potential threat to the existence of our society. If the rate of certain kinds of UFO behavior were to dramatically increase, collective panic and riots could result. Studying UFOs is different from scientific research. A scientist who studies meteorites does not expect to be attacked by them. But, it is easy to believe that the UFO phenomenon is intentionally deceptive and occasionally does attack those who study it.

Our society is vulnerable to the UFO phenomenon in several ways. We have a government which seemingly pays little attention to it, a public which believes in it, and a strong interest in the occult as an alternative to a scientific view of the world.

He suggests that it is the humanities which provide our best resources for dealing with the UFO phenomenon.

Using the Fatima apparitions as an example, he asks how many in the crowds decided to suspend their critical reactions and take the leap of faith? Similarly, how many who have had close encounters have changed to a more religious orientation as a result? He saw a dangerous trend in ufology toward reaching out for some exterior meaning imposed by the phenomenon itself.

As always, this is a highly condensed version of a MUFON Symposium presentation. The topics discussed above contained much more supporting material than appears in this abbreviated summary, some of which is written verbatim and some of which is paraphrased.

Professor Westrum also had some things to say about the government's efforts and possible effects of their seemingly uninterested attitude toward UFOs. He also addressed the strengths and weaknesses of UFO investigators having little scientific background.

Additional information on the work of Ron Westrum can be found by typing his name into the Google search engine.

Any reader wishing to read the text of the entire presentation, plus those of all speakers at a MUFON Symposium, should order a copy of the Proceedings (in this case 1976, if still available) by sending \$27.50 to:

MUFON, PO Box 369, Morrison CO 80465-0369.

ON WITNESS INTIMIDATION - THE DEBUNKERS' BASIC WEAPON

By Budd Hopkins-Intruders Foundation,

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After decades of dealing with debunkers' attacks upon anyone reporting UFO abductions, I am still amazed at the ill-informed and often cruel nature of these published assaults. I am not referring here to diatribes against investigators like myself, because, as Harry Truman pointed out, to be in the kitchen involves a certain amount of heat. Instead, I mean attacks against the abductees themselves, the innocent men, women and children who have dared to report their suspicions of ongoing UFO experiences.

I believe there is a reason why debunkers have chosen these experiencers as their primary targets. If abductees can be regularly ridiculed and demeaned, fewer will dare to give their accounts publicly, and those higher up on the socio-economic scale will be even less inclined to expose their identities. Thus, their valuable credibility, the authoritative weight of their testimony, will be denied to those of us trying to make as strong a case as we can that an extraordinary phenomenon such as this demands an extraordinary investigation.

This debunking ploy deflects objective scientific inquiry because some of the most important evidence necessary for informed judgment will have been effectively suppressed.

As evidence of this campaign of witness intimidation I would like to present a composite picture of the typical abduction experiencer as assembled from a number of debunking efforts over the past few years.

First, the abductee is "mentally ill." Who can forget the late Carl Sagan - no psychiatrist he - suggesting on "Nova" that while there is outer space, there is, more importantly also inner space, which he went on to describe as involving "hallucination and delusion," thereby conjuring up other such major psychological problems. Sagan subtly implied that severe mental illness - not merely neurosis - was central to abduction reports. The inescapable conclusion to be drawn from the words of this world-famous scientist was that abductees were to be regarded as sick and their accounts were not to be taken seriously. No mention was made of the work of even skeptical psychologists such as N. P. Spanos and Elizabeth Slater, which clearly demonstrated the absence of mental illness in abductees. On TV, before a large viewing public, the astronomer reversed the facts and trumped the psychologists.

Second, these "mentally ill" abductees are also, in the words of another eminent debunker, "little nobodies." Not scientists, police officers, Ph.D's, doctors, lawyers, psychiatrists, successful businesspeople, government officials, and engineers such as I have worked with. To this debunker they are just "little nobodies," pathetic souls whom we can all look down upon, and demean with ease. The cruelty of this smug assertion is self-evident.

Third, according to a recent debunking book, these "mentally ill little nobodies" are also mostly gay and lesbian. (Even, presumably, prepubescent abductee children). The authors of this book provide no clue as to where they obtained this startling information. I know for a fact that they never asked David Jacobs, John Mack or myself if we, with over fifty years of research experience among us, had any statistics about the sexual orientation of the hundreds upon hundreds of abduction experiencers we have worked with. Most researchers I know - which is most of those active in the field - would probably say that the percentage of gay abductees

roughly equals the percentage in the population as a whole. And this apart from the fact that no researcher I'm acquainted with routinely asks his or her clients about their sexual preferences. (Privacy issues are of paramount concern in this besieged field.) But the authors of this debunking book surely understand that by branding the abductee population as 50-60% gay, they are providing yet another reason for a potential abduction witness to refuse to come forward and make his or her name known.

Fourth, these "Gay, mentally ill little nobodies" are also publicity hounds who make up abduction stories just to gain attention. In the words of one of our favorite debunkers, they are all "just trying to get on television." Apparently they are so dim as to believe that it will add to their personal luster and fame to appear on TV a - let's remember the aura assigned to them - as "gay, mentally-ill little nobodies."

Of the nearly seven hundred abductee experiencers I've worked with over the past quarter of a century, I still have only a handful - roughly a dozen - who will appear on TV, giving their names, showing their faces and presenting their personal accounts. Many TV producers have told me of their frustration in trying to persuade abductees to come forward and present their UFO experiences. Obviously, the witness-intimidators have been effective in making this a club no one wants to belong to.

However, despite the debunkers' success and our inability to present the public with the full range and power of witness testimony, we will continue to offer what we can in order to alert the people, the press and the scientific establishment to the presence of alien intelligence on our planet. In what I regard as a momentous societal struggle, our greatest debt is to those courageous abductees who have risked both reputation and livelihood by daring to make their harrowing experiences public. They have stood up to the ridicule and outright cruelty visited upon them by militant debunkers, and have told their stories. To the intimidators they are nothing more than "Gay, mentally ill, publicity-seeking little nobodies." To me, they are heroes.

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ROSWELL: 52 YEARS OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS

By Donald R. Schmitt & Thomas J. Carey

How could such a monumental event as a UFO crash in 1947 be kept a secret so long? Surely the real story would have leaked before now, as has seemingly happened to every government secret in the past 25 years. President Nixon himself, with all his powers and resources, wasn't able to prevent reporters Woodward and Bernstein from uncovering the Watergate conspiracy.

Secrets surely do leak, but some secrets don't for long periods of time. Consider these instances:

The F-117 Stealth fighter was developed in secret and was flying for almost a decade while the public was told the aircraft was still on the drawing board.

Project Ultra, the Allied World War II project that allowed us to break the codes of the Germans and thereby hasten their defeat, was a secret for 30 years until revealed in the 1970s.

Radiation experiments by the U.S. government on their own personnel during and after WWII were kept secret until the last five years. Only recently have the numerous military accidental deaths from nuclear devices been disclosed, not because of a desire by the government to admit the truth, but because of the dedicated probing of civilian organizations.

Mind-control experiments by the CIA on unsuspecting citizens 30 years ago were kept secret until the past few years.

Charles B. Moore of Project Mogul fame never knew the name of the secret project he was working on until 1992!

So it is certainly true that the government can keep secrets; but to what lengths are public officials prepared to go to enact a cover-up? Consider this one instance from an event that occurred during World War II. The Boeing Airplane Company was secretly developing the B-29 bomber for the Army Air Force at its main plant near Seattle. On February 18, 1943, a prototype B-29 caught on fire during a test flight and crashed in Seattle onto a meat packing plant. The plane actually passed over downtown Seattle during its rapid descent. All members of the crew died, along with several employees of the plant and some of the firemen

who fought the blaze that engulfed the plane and plant.

Thousands of people saw the plane coming down and the subsequent fire and rescue efforts. Did the story of the crash of a secret aircraft go out over the wires that same day, with accounts from these many witnesses? Although it seems unlikely, the FBI succeeded in preventing any but the most garbled information from leaking out. FBI agents went so far as to intercept all copies of City Transit Weekly, an employee newsletter that carried photos of the plane taken by a Seattle city bus driver.

So the government does keep secrets, and it will take extreme measures to protect those secrets in matters of national security. Could the Roswell event have been sufficiently important to warrant such treatment? We think so, and so must have two men, both now deceased, whom we have interviewed.

The Provost Marshal at the Roswell base, the equivalent of the chief of police, was in charge of all security at the crash site in 1947. When we located and then contacted Col. Edwin Easley in late 1989, it was the first time anyone had extensively questioned him about what had occurred. The Provost Marshal did not tell us the weather balloon cover story, nor did he give us a true account of the Roswell recovery. Instead, he told us that he considered himself still sworn to secrecy about the event—after 43 years! "I can't talk about it," was all that Easley kept repeating.

The second officer we interviewed was an agent in the Counter-Intelligence Corps, Lt. Colonel Sheridan Cavitt. He accompanied another intelligence officer, Major Jesse Marcel, on the initial trip to the debris site and, we believe, wrote a report on the incident for his superiors in Washington. At first, this intelligence agent refused to admit that he was stationed at Roswell in early July 1947 or that the event had occurred at all. There had been no newspaper story, no fuss, not even the recovery of a weather balloon. After much prodding, he was willing to admit to the U.S. Air Force only that a weather balloon came down and was recovered, but that was as far as he would go. He admits no other personal involvement, even though other reliable sources give him a central role. Now he is considered the number one participant/witness for the Air Force, endorsing their Mogul balloon theory.

We admire how seriously these gentlemen took their oaths of secrecy for almost 50 years, but we must raise this question: Why the need to conceal the recovery of a Mogul weather balloon after more than 50 years?

The government cover-up extends to the public records of the Air Force UFO investigation as well. Those records were released in 1976, and the file on Roswell contains but a single press clipping. No letters, no notes, no investigative forms, no official weather balloon explanation, nothing but that lone clipping. The file for the recovery of an identical weather balloon in Circleville, Ohio, at the same time as the Roswell event, contains far more documentation on its particulars. Where is the documentation that should be in the Roswell file? Historical Roswell AFB records have also disappeared without a trace according to the GAO investigation.

The evidence presented here establishes that the Roswell crash was one of those events that had to be kept secret by whatever means were necessary. Files and notes were confiscated from reporters, radio stations were warned not to air stories, a phony story was concocted, and men were sworn to secrecy. Many of these tactics today would be termed civil rights violations.

As you can well imagine, it has not been an easy task to reconstruct what actually occurred in July of 1947. Many of the men (and the few women) involved are now dead, and those living are quite elderly. Human memory does not record events with complete accuracy, especially after years have elapsed. As Kevin Tierney has explained in his book *How to Be A Witness*, when someone has been asked to recount his memory of an event several times, "For the most part what he says will be the same, but there will generally be minor discrepancies between his recollection on one occasion and the next." This is certainly true for the accounts we have gathered concerning Roswell, and the natural errors that creep into an individual's memory mean that some inconsistencies exist in the testimony you will read. Nevertheless, the general pattern of events we have recorded from essentially all the witnesses does fit one consistent picture.

As those above the age of five at the time of President Kennedy's assassination can relate, the moment when they first learned of that gruesome event is permanently etched in their minds—a

snapshot memory. Several of the Roswell witnesses have compared their memories of the 1947 event to that of the assassination: The Roswell memories are vivid and detailed, despite the passage of 50 years.

Government secrecy is not always something evil and unjustified. We understand and support the practice of secrecy as it applies to certain types of information. Some information should remain hidden, such as nuclear firing codes, covert military activity, undercover police investigations, and information regarding intelligence work. But records documenting the recovery of a Mogul balloon hardly merit such treatment. And Project Mogul was a failed experiment.

What could have happened so long ago at Roswell to cause former intelligence officers to abide by their oaths of secrecy today, even though previous accounts of the recovery have been published and broadcast? What kind of event required such high levels of security that the intelligence officer who participated in the initial recovery of the debris, and who was entrusted with the task of taking some of the debris to higher levels of command, was not allowed to read the written report upon his return? What caused the military to place the ranch manager who reported finding the debris under house arrest? Why have the military records of men involved with the debris disappeared?

Unfortunately, we face the same problem that other researchers face—lack of physical evidence. While it is generally accepted that all efforts by civilian researchers have yielded no tangible evidence, it is also true that Roswell may have indeed established that "nuts and bolts" evidence. But still the question remains, who is telling the truth—the officials who deny that physical proof, or the hundreds of witnesses who stand in total opposition to that position?

And if the Roswell incident is indeed what hundreds of credible witnesses swear it was, the enigma of UFOs is no longer spurious or abstruse. Answers, though known only by a select few, are still being withheld. However, we can now, in total confidence and conviction, direct the public to the undeniable source of the proof. Proof that would enable us to finally lift the veil of secrecy that surrounds Roswell. With all of that as a precursor, put aside all political agenda, all preconceived opinions, all bias, and consider the following:

If the debris originated from a top-secret test, why was there no recovery or search operation underway until rancher Mac Brazel reported the debris to Sheriff George Wilcox one day after the find on Sunday, July 6? An aerial search over open range and high desert would have taken but a few hours to locate any downed object. This has been confirmed by retired military officers, who were involved in actual search-and-rescue missions in New Mexico. We, too, have flown private planes over the Brazel site demonstrating the panoramic field of vision. Given that the debris field was three-quarters of a mile long, a search and recovery team could have located it long before Brazel did.

Weather balloons had fallen onto Brazel's ranch on a number of occasions, and he turned them in for the rewards offered. Such devices always carried instructions and return policies which usually included the name of the manufacturer and location of the launch site. In 1945, he reported finding the remains of a Japanese balloon bomb. This time, however, he reportedly was angry because of the large amount of debris. His frightened sheep would not cross the pasture due to the vast coverage of the material. It is interesting to note that weather balloons are still dropping on the ranch. The current owners store them in an old feed storage silo. One particularly large balloon, about 20 feet in diameter, took one man approximately two minutes to retrieve. He had no trouble identifying it.

After personally examining samples of the material, why did Brazel's neighbors encourage him to report the crash for the \$3,000 reward reported by the press for physical evidence of a flying disc and not for the standard \$5 balloon reward?

How did the highly trained and experienced military officers of the famous 509th atomic bomb wing, the first and only nuclear strike force in the world at that time, mistake a conventional weather instrument for an object they all, without exception, concluded to be an actual "flying saucer?" Skeptics who believe that it was a special radar-reflecting balloon from Project Mogul have said that the civilians, the base commander, Col. William Blanchard, the head of intelligence, Marcel, and all the other officers at Roswell were unfamiliar with such specialized equipment. Marcel, however, had a radar interpretation officer assigned to his office. He would have been able to recognize the balloon, even if the others were fooled. Even considering Mogul, balloon materials consisting of Neoprene

rubber, reflective foil, wooden sticks, masking tape, and balling twine still comprised such a device—materials easily identifiable by even a child.

What type of balloon and instrument package could scatter debris over an area three-quarters of a mile long and create a 500-foot long/ 10-foot wide gouge in the tough high desert country of New Mexico which consists of little topsoil and mostly shale and slate stone?

What type of balloon would fill Marcel's 1942 Buick convertible, and Cavitt's jeep carryall truck and still require 50 to 60 troops with wheelbarrows and trucks two days to complete the cleanup?

Why did the military check the site for possible radiation if the downed object was nothing more than a common weather/Mogul balloon?

After he was found at the home of Walt Whitmore Sr., majority owner of radio station KGFL in Roswell, on the morning of Tuesday, July 8, why was Brazel held in detention at the base for another seven days? According to Brazel, he was not allowed to place any outside calls, not even to his wife. He was also forced to undergo a physical examination. His family and neighbors remember how he later complained how he had been asked the same questions "over and over again," and that he described the experience by saying he "was in jail."

Why did the Secretary of the Federal Communications Commission, a Mr. Slowie in Washington, D.C., personally call Whitmore at KGFL and threaten removal of his broadcasting license if the station continued airing reports of the incident? Why would the chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, also call Whitmore and persuade him to comply with the FCC order? *

Why the need for extreme security measures at the crash site of a downed meteorological instrument? Measures such as: armed guards surrounding the inner gouge area, another cordon around the perimeter, riflemen posted on the surrounding hills, and MPs stationed on the outlying roads from Saturday, July 5, through at least Thursday, the 10th.

Why was Bud Payne, a hired hand on one of the neighboring ranches, *physically removed from the Brazel ranch* during the military occupation of the

site? As Payne was attempting to round up a stray cow, a military jeep roared up to him and MPs physically forced him off the ranch.

Why were there seven confirmed (possibly eight) flights to transport the remains of a balloon? Most of the wreckage was flown out under high security July 5-10 . . . rather extreme treatment even within the confines of the top security base in the world at that time.

If the object was nothing more than a weather balloon, or even a Project Mogul device, why would Colonel Blanchard set up operations at the recovery site? As the commanding officer of the 509th Bomb Group, Blanchard would have had more important duties.

Why was farmer Sherman Campbell and the local sheriff in Circleville, Ohio, able to immediately identify the Rawin (Mogul) target device that crashed there on July 5, while no one in Roswell could? In fact, the Campbell family *was even permitted to keep the balloon* the Air Force currently claims was so secret.

Why was the debris of a weather balloon, as identified by Warrant Officer Irving Newton, displayed in Brigadier General Roger Ramey's office different from that of a Mogul balloon device? The new Air Force theory describes painted floral symbols on masking tape used to reinforce the radar kite in an effort to explain hieroglyphic-like characters on I-beam structures as portrayed by witnesses. Even under high magnification none are evident in the photographs taken in Ramey's office at Fort Worth (Carswell) Army Air Field in Texas.

Why did Ramey's Chief of Staff Colonel Thomas J. DuBose (who is pictured with Ramey in two of the weather balloon photos) sign a sworn affidavit in 1990 attesting to switching the balloon wreckage for the genuine material? "It was a cover story . . . to get the press off of Ramey's back."

Contrary to Ramey announcing to reporters the weather balloon explanation along with his cancellation of debris being flown to Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio, why did the FBI refute the General's claims in a telex which was sent at 6:17 p.m. CST the same day of the press conference on July 8? "...But that telephonic conversation between their office and [Wright Field] had not borne out this belief. Disc and balloon being

transported to Wright Field by special plane for examination."

Why did a special photo team from Washington, D.C., under the command of Col. Anton Hansen, arrive at Roswell to photograph the recovery and record the subsequent events? Against standard operating procedure, the 3rd Photo Lab at the Roswell base was never called in to photograph the crash site or the material. Why were two Secret Service agents by the names McCann and Devinnes dispatched from Washington to represent the president in Roswell during the incident?

Why were there unknown doctors and nurses observed at the Roswell base hospital at the time of the incident as noted by nurse Rosemary McMannis?

If the recovery was of nothing more unusual than a Mogul balloon, photographed in Ramey's office by the news media on July 8, why did the military, on July 9, tour the various news media in Roswell retrieving copies of Walter Haut's press release? If there was nothing to the story, why did the military search radio station KGFL, taking everything that related to the crash, including the documents that newsman Frank Joyce tried to hide?

Why did the U.S. military, like a scene from a 1950's sci-fi movie, surround the Roswell Sheriff's Office just to retrieve a small box of debris that Brazel had left there days earlier?

Why did the Pentagon contact Muroc (Edwards) Army Air Field in California inquiring as to any missing Northrop flying wings within days of the crash north of Roswell? Muroc responded "negative." Due to jet engine conversion, none were operational in 1947. Eyewitnesses reported the recovered craft at Roswell was wing-shaped, not saucer.

There was reportedly talk at the base during the recovery concerning "bodies" involved in the crash. Rumors circulated through the town of Roswell about one of the crew still alive. One day after the first press release, the Army and Navy, as reported by the Associated Press, moved to "Shut down the rumors." The Air Force now maintains that no such "talk" concerning bodies took place. Why? Secrecy oaths would not have been required for the recovery of a weather balloon, or any other conventional device, unless it was a highly classified subject. Why were the men involved taken into a

conference room in groups of 10-12 and verbally sworn to protect the truth concerning what actually happened? Others at Roswell and Fort Worth were ordered not to discuss it, or ever bring it up again.

Ed Reese, in charge of the now declassified Project Blue Book files at the National Archives, told us that he too was surprised that Roswell is not included in the Blue Book system with all other explained reports. Why is the most highly publicized UFO case of all time strangely absent?

Neighbors of Mac Brazel, including Loretta Proctor and her son Norris, reported that Brazel returned from his detention driving a new pick-up truck. According to Norris Proctor, Brazel, who had been "dirt poor," suddenly had money to buy a new house in Tularosa, a meat locker in Las Cruces, and property in Colorado. Robert Wolf, also a good friend of Brazel, recounted how he observed him with a new truck at the Mitchell Feed and Granary in Roswell within months of the incident. Was Brazel paid the reward for the physical evidence of a flying saucer?

The daughter of Melvin Brown reported that her father, who had seen the bodies the day they were recovered, along with the MPs at the crash site, were paid off. She said that a special trust account was established in Roswell for the guards. Why would there be payoffs to maintain secrecy of a weather balloon? A handwritten note with the account number was supplied by Brown just days before he died. Attempts to locate such a fund have been unsuccessful.

There are two, possibly three sites involved with the crash at Roswell. First is the debris field. Thirty miles to the southeast where the remains of the craft and crew were located is the second. A few miles to the northwest of the debris site was apparently a touchdown point of baked soil and fused sand which was first seen by Chaves County deputies and then by Lewis R. Rickett and Dr. Lincoln LaPaz. How is it possible that a balloon and array train could be responsible for sites such as these?

Pieces of small wreckage Brazel's son Bill Jr. had managed to collect were confiscated by the military in 1949. *Why was the military still monitoring the situation two years later?* This was almost two years after Mogul had been declassified. Why were search teams still dispatched from the base at Roswell through the end of 1947, through 1948, and

into 1949 to recover remaining debris at the sites specifically after heavy rainfalls as described by Major Charles McGee?

If the Roswell device was nothing more than a weather balloon, why bring in LaPaz, a noted expert in the discovery and recovery of meteorites? LaPaz had worked on dozens of classified government projects, including the ultra-classified Manhattan Project. If it was nothing more unusual than a balloon, why would the Pentagon assign him to determine the speed and trajectory of the downed device two months after the crash?

In 1952, Major Ellis Boldra, an engineer stationed at Roswell, discovered a one-foot-square section of debris locked in a safe in the engineering office. It displayed the same extraordinary characteristics described by 1947 witnesses including the memory capabilities. Why did Washington D.C. dispatch a special courier to retrieve the material immediately after news leaked out about its discovery in Roswell?

At our request, retired Navy Seal officer Charles Mascovich submitted the names and documented series numbers of over two dozen military personnel stationed at Roswell in July 1947 to both the Defense Department and the Veteran's Administration for further confirmation of military service. The list included Charles E. Hanshaw, James W. Hundley, William J. Cardell, Lee J. Mulliner, Melvin E. Brown, Ernest O. Powell, Clyde M. Robertson, Cecil T. Yoakum, Harold T. Hastings, Edward M. Sager, and Donald E. Carroll. Why does neither the Defense Department nor the Veteran's Administration have records of any of these men when we can document that each served at the Roswell Army Air Field?

If there was nothing to the Roswell case other than a misidentification of a weather balloon, why have witnesses, on their deathbeds, denied that? Melvin E. Brown spent the last four days of his life telling his family that it wasn't a weather balloon. Why was the dying archaeologist/geologist at St. Petersburg Hospital in Florida telling the nurses she had seen the bodies and then warning them about government reprisal? Roswell base Provost Marshal Edwin Easley, base Adjutant Patrick Saunders, and 393 Squadron pilot O.W. "Pappy" Henderson also gave deathbed testimony confirming the "flying saucer" crash and the recovery of bodies. And there are others more recent.

The unusual qualities of the material described to date by two dozen known eyewitnesses are consistent in every detail. In appearance, tensile strength, apparent weightlessness, memory characteristics, uninterpretable symbology, fiber-optic and plastic-like, metallic composition, its physical make-up would be difficult to duplicate even by today's standards. Why do none of the first-hand witnesses describe common materials from a weather balloon? And more importantly, why were none of these individuals interviewed by the Air Force for their 1994 Roswell Report?

In an unprecedented reaction by then Secretary of Defense Les Aspin, why did he refuse to respond to three separate letters of request for the release of the Roswell files from Congressman Steve Shiff of New Mexico in 1993? Why did Congressman Shiff also receive denials from the Air Force, the Pentagon, and the National Security Council for similar requests?

And if Mogul was as highly classified as the Air Force maintains, which evidently led to the misidentification in Roswell, how is it that they invited the press to photograph this missing, top-secret balloon in Ramey's office and promote the publication of seven different pictures in practically every major newspaper throughout the country? And why would they blow the entire project (with pictures) in the Alamogordo News of July 10, 1947?

Concerning the 1997 Air Force book titled Roswell Report—Case Closed that proposed the "crash dummy" explanation, given that the very earliest such tests took place six years after the 1947 incident, why didn't the Air Force consider that none of the first-hand witnesses to the bodies remained in the service or were still in New Mexico at the time of such crash-dummy tests?

Each description of the bodies by the witnesses from Roswell is consistent. Interestingly, they do not resemble what have been commonly described by witnesses in reported UFO occupant cases as well as the alleged abduction accounts. This would tend to rule out contamination from such sources. And why were none of these witnesses ever interviewed by the Air Force for any of their recent reports?

Why would the United States military resort to gross civil-rights violations, i.e., physical intimidation and death threats to such civilians as Frankie Rowe, Tommy Thomson, Frank Joyce,

Judd Roberts, Walt Whitmore Sr., Pete and Ruben Anaya, John McBoyle, and George Wilcox? And why were their threats extended to even the witness's children to insure their silence about the recovery of simply a weather balloon? Project Mogul was declassified within two days of the reported balloon explanation on July 10, 1947; still the threats continued for years after the incident.

And finally, why do retired members of the military today in 1999, years after the Air Force Project Mogul and Crash Dummy Reports, still refuse to break their oaths of secrecy concerning the Roswell incident?

Public apathy often causes an inconsistent approach to important issues. Certainly, an event such as Roswell would have profound ramifications on our way of viewing the universe and humanity's place in it. It is because of this potential impact on our lives that it deserves to be discussed openly and honestly.

It is time that government officials acknowledge their responsibility for their actions—and their failure. No one can question the rational motivation and benign intent behind withholding, at first, the truth. Until the true nature of the Roswell wreckage was identified, it was the duty of government officials and military officers to safeguard national security through whatever means they believed prudent, including absolute secrecy and denial of the facts. But they have fallen short. Absolute secrecy has not been maintained, and the complete truth must be told. No longer should half-truths, rumors, and innuendo take center stage in the public forum. The whole story must be revealed before the last of the witnesses takes it to the grave.

The facts have been presented for your consideration. Our investigation has led us to a conclusion we would present in any court of law, or, if possible, before Congress. In fact, many of our main witnesses are willing to give congressional depositions. We are confident that you, too, will demand a complete account. But without sufficient public support, this is unlikely to happen.

The Roswell case rests on a wealth of circumstantial evidence which we have attempted to present in a scientific and objective manner. We welcome any conventional explanation for these events that disapproves, with solid evidence, what we have outlined. As evidenced in the past, we have time and time again demonstrated our willingness to

thoroughly examine such alternative possibilities. We also believe that we have exhausted all such solutions to the event.

However, until such proof is forthcoming, we will continue to present the facts as we have discovered them. We will continue to believe that Roswell represents the recovery of an unidentified flying object by the United States government. This conclusion is supported legally by the "preponderance of evidence" doctrine and scientifically by "Ockham's Law" of parsimony. To paraphrase the old Sherlock Holmes axiom, "when all possible explanations have been ruled out, whatever remains, however impossible, must be the truth."

Sadly, the United States military maintains its official policy of stall and delay until the few remaining witnesses soon depart with the remainder of the real story. Still, it is the military who possesses the true physical evidence. Strategically, by denying the witnesses, they have attempted to bury their tracks. But fortunately for a growing number of courageous witnesses who have chosen to defy officialdom, we have a much clearer picture of what truly happened outside of Roswell, New Mexico on that stormy night of July 4, 1947.

Let us not forget that the "secret keepers" are now up to their fourth official explanation. Ironically, as a Pentagon spokesman addressed media questions following the "crash dummy" press conference in June 1997, when asked what the military response would be should the public not accept their latest Roswell scenario. "Well, then I'm afraid we'll be here again in ten years offering another explanation."

To quote the late Beatle, John Lennon, "Just give me some truth."

Re: ROSWELL: 52 YEARS OF UNANSWERED QUESTIONS
by Jim Hickman, <si_vp@yahoo.com>,
Executive Dir., Skywatch Int., Inc.

Let me add to this with a few questions of my own...

Why was there was a military group called the Kilner-Lindbergh Board and was it dedicated to studying "foreign" aircraft in the US as early as

1939? perhaps part of the Army Counter-Intelligence Corp?

Why was Charles Lindberg a member of that group and why was he so very interested in rockets, Dr. Goddard, and Roswell from the early '30's thru 1947.

Why did Lindberg have a high security clearance throughout WW-II and after, his anti-war activities now seem to be a cover-up act to keep his group's identity secure

Why was General Roger Ramey was in Roswell and not Fort Worth on the day of the flying disk recovery in contradiction to the reports of the time, per an eyewitness' affidavit see: Earl L. Zimmerman and Robert E. Smith's affidavit's

Why was Charles Lindberg was on the base at Roswell with Gen. Ramey, 2 eyewitness' including Dr. Jesse Marcel saw him entering the officers club and Jesse even remembers the color suit Lindberg was wearing.

Just don't add up to me...

[The USAF calls Roswell "Case Closed", but until these and other questions about the Roswell incident are answered, this case is definitely NOT closed. Joel Henry, Ed.]

**Contact and Disclosure –
A Coverup of the Ambiguous
(Is the Government even Relevant?)
©2004 Craig R. Lang MS, CHt**

In recent times we have heard a lot of hopeful statements regarding the possibilities of disclosure – that governmental or quasi-governmental powers-that-be will soon be releasing UFO-related information that they have withheld for most of the contemporary historical era. What is the likelihood of this? What do the actual dynamics of the interaction between humanity (including governments) and the Visitors imply about the prospects for disclosure?

In the October 16th, 2003 Edition of Whitley's Journal , on his website: www.unknowncountry.com, Whitley Strieber draws some very startling conclusions about the reality of the Visitor (a.k.a. CE4, Close Encounter, Contact, or UFO Abduction)

phenomenon. He cites evidence both of his own experiences, and of those of others. He concludes from this that the phenomenon is very real, physical, and (at least in part) non-benevolent. In my view he builds an excellent argument for that reality.

Subsequently, Whitley goes on to talk about the coverup. He discusses what he thinks the motives are behind it. What would prompt a government (indeed, most governments of the world) to clamp a lid on something that could be a true breakthrough in science? The possible conclusions he presents are for the most part, quite chilling.

The coverup motives he postulates are for the most part, not malevolent in themselves. However they are very much based upon fear. One class of possible motives is that in 1947, those in the inner-circle of world governments (whatever that means) were warned that sharing knowledge of the Visitors would result in the destruction (deliberate or otherwise) of our world.

Another possible coverup motive might simply be fear of the results of general exposure to the ultra-high technology of the Visitors. It is the fear that we will end up going the way of all lower-tech civilizations which are exposed to the higher technological advancement of the outside world - catastrophe, collapse, colonization, and eventual absorption.

A word on the coverup – and that is that I have largely avoided work in this area. I generally don't do Roswell investigations, nor do I do anything with respect to possible historical UFO crash retrievals, government surveillance, etc. What I am very interested in, though, is what the (quasi) government actually understands, versus what data they may hold. Assuming that they have a lot of information, what does that buy them?

So, just who and/or what comprises the coverup? Is there an inner circle that has the answers? Or do they just have more data? Are they, perhaps, just as confused about the true nature of the phenomenon as everybody else? At least to some degree, I suggest that the answer to this last question appears to be "yes". Many researchers have built a good case that there is a lot of excellent data, physical evidence and perhaps even living entities in possession of those in power. But this does not mean that they understand the phenomenon.

Indeed, the dynamics of the coverup as described in the UFO literature, suggest that they don't.

My hypothesis is that the government – be it MJ12, the Department of Defense, or whomever, has a lot of data, but little more actual knowledge than the rest of the UFO community. And to make matters worse, they have little if any control over the phenomenon, itself. In short, we have seen that the phenomenon can do as it pleases, and there is little that the human authorities (U.S. or any other) can do about it. So what does the cover up accomplish? It is a coverup of the ambiguous, a hiding of the apparent truth that the military and government are not in control of the skies over our country(ies). They may in fact, be just as baffled by the phenomenon as you and I.

It seems logically compelling that such a coverup exists. It is human nature to deny that which scares or confuses us. It is also the nature of power to perpetuate itself, to circle the wagons in the face of challenge. So, what is it a coverup of? It is a coverup of the ambiguous – the denial and repression of that which authority can not control – and probably does not even understand. It is a coverup of weakness.

While in his article, Whitley Strieber claims that the phenomenon is real and physical, he does not claim that it is understood. And this is critical. At its core, the phenomenon is ambiguous, resembling a hall of mirrors. There is one loose end after another. One of the most prominent of these - at least according to what experiencers tell me - is the overlay of the physical and metaphysical.

More than one experiencer has described to me, while in deep hypnotic trance, how they were physically taken from their room, and into a nearby UFO. Yet in quite a few cases, at some point a metaphysical event occurs. More than one person has described being met by a spirit guide. Others have described one or more events relating to previous lifetimes - in one case, as an E.T. And the list goes on - a continuum of spiritual and metaphysical events associated with nuts-and-bolts UFO encounters.

Another event is the reality anomaly. This has been written about extensively in the UFO literature, but will be summarized here in the words of Jenny Randles, as "The Oz Factor". During the time period immediately surrounding a close encounter, surroundings often seem to take a surreal

character. The experiencer finds him/her-self on roads that apparently don't actually exist, or in places that seem to be non-physical in nature.

Other smaller anomalies abound. One such example is where one experiencer described to me looking through a window which was opened outward. On investigation we noted that the window does not open - it was framed glass, with no mechanism.

These are just a few examples of how the phenomenon can manipulate reality to suit its own ends. This is the reality-paradox behind the phenomenon - and there is so much more. Put purely and simply, the phenomenon is an intractable and intrusive mystery. It affects many of our citizens and invades our sky. It is a hall of mirrors, and the more we learn about it, the less we know. Our government is no exception.

So what is the cover-up covering up? As we said earlier, the coverup does not seem to necessarily be due to malevolence, but rather of fear. It is fear of the inability to protect its citizenry, fear from lack of knowledge, and more generally fear of the consequences of acknowledging the reality of - well, of whatever the UFO/CE4 phenomenon really is. My bet is that they are covering up a very expensive and highly organized research effort, which has had little more result than those of us in the civilian sector. They have a lot more data, but few if any answers. It is a cover up of the ambiguous. However they have assumed the self-appointed responsibility to protect their respective nations from all (potential) enemies. This implies control of the skies, etc. And if there is one thing that the phenomenon has demonstrated it is that the air forces of the Earth do not have that control - UFO's are able to zip around at will.

Given possible strategies for contact with Earth, which the Visitors might be pursuing, what is the government's role - and what is it's relevance to the process? I propose that the government really has very little relevance in the dynamics between humanity and the Visitors. We have seen that the phenomenon can do just about anything it pleases - flying over military air space, abducting citizens, and/or any other activity at will. So the implication is that in the human/Visitor interaction, what the human authorities know or do is pretty much irrelevant.

In what I call the "National Park" metaphor, we can think of human society as being analogous to a pack or heard of animals (e.g. wolves, elk, bears, etc.) in a nature preserve, while the Visitors are analogous to naturalists managing that preserve and its animal population. In this analogy, we can imagine an alpha male being in charge of the pack. It needs to maintain authority, yet is confronted by the strange phenomenon of two-legged beings darting and abducting its pack members. These beings swoop in, immobilize an unsuspecting animal, conduct medical examinations, perhaps attach tracking devices, etc. Yet, there seems to be little or no overall harm done to the animal.

In the end, the alpha male appears to have no say in what these strange creatures do. He can not prevent their incursions, nor can he even form a relationship with the beings. He is simply a bystander, as confused by the phenomenon as the rest of the pack. I would hypothesize that the human authorities (the "alpha structure" of our society) have little more control than our hapless alpha wolf.

The Deardorff article suggests to me that in fact, the human authorities are more of an obstacle than an agent of contact. As a result, it is likely that the Visitors are simply doing an end-run around them. Deardorff suggests that there will be the deliberate presentation of absurdity by the phenomenon, in order to decrease the apparent credibility of their presence. Witnesses may be silenced more by the strangeness of this appearance than by any deliberate authority-driven campaign of repression.

Still, in the present day, we see experiencers "coming out of the closet" in larger numbers. A bond, network and community seem to be forming of those touched by contact. What was previously only in the shadows now appears to be coming to light - whether or not the human authorities are aware of it. It is not under the control of human authority. Contact seems to be occurring, one person at a time, and is increasing - perhaps heading towards a crescendo of critical mass. And there is little that the authorities of this world can do about it. So the natural response of human authority is to deny that the contact process exists - covering the eyes for comfort...

So what does this mean for disclosure? My theory is that rather than an organized release of info or deliberate disclosure, any government coverup(s) will simply become increasingly untenable. There

will be "heroic" efforts by whatever authority is involved, to keep the phenomenon out of public view. Yet, at the same time, we may see an ever-greater leakage of info about the phenomenon. None of this will be organized, and there may be an overall sense of absurdity to it – as with anything related to the phenomenon. Still, the truth is far too damaging to human authority to ever completely release – and that truth is that human authority is not in control.

And while the government continues to struggle with its (lack of) information, the contact process continues. The phenomenon continues to touch humanity one person at a time. With each person being contacted, a new awareness eventually develops - and in the end, a critical mass of understanding begins to grow. Humanity moves grudgingly toward the day when we are ready for more open interaction with the Visitors.

So how will disclosure finally occur? I suspect that in the end, the phenomenon will disclose itself. At a time in which humanity seems to be ready, when humans can accept and can grow into our role in the cosmic community, we will become overtly aware of the truth.

UFO QUOTE

NEW YORK TIMES, Page 31 (1/17/1957) –
"No agency in this country or Russia is able to duplicate at this time the speeds and accelerations which radars and observers indicate these flying objects are able to achieve... there are objects coming into our atmosphere at very high speeds."
- Former Head of the U.S. Navy's Guided-Missile Program, Admiral Delmer S. Fahmey

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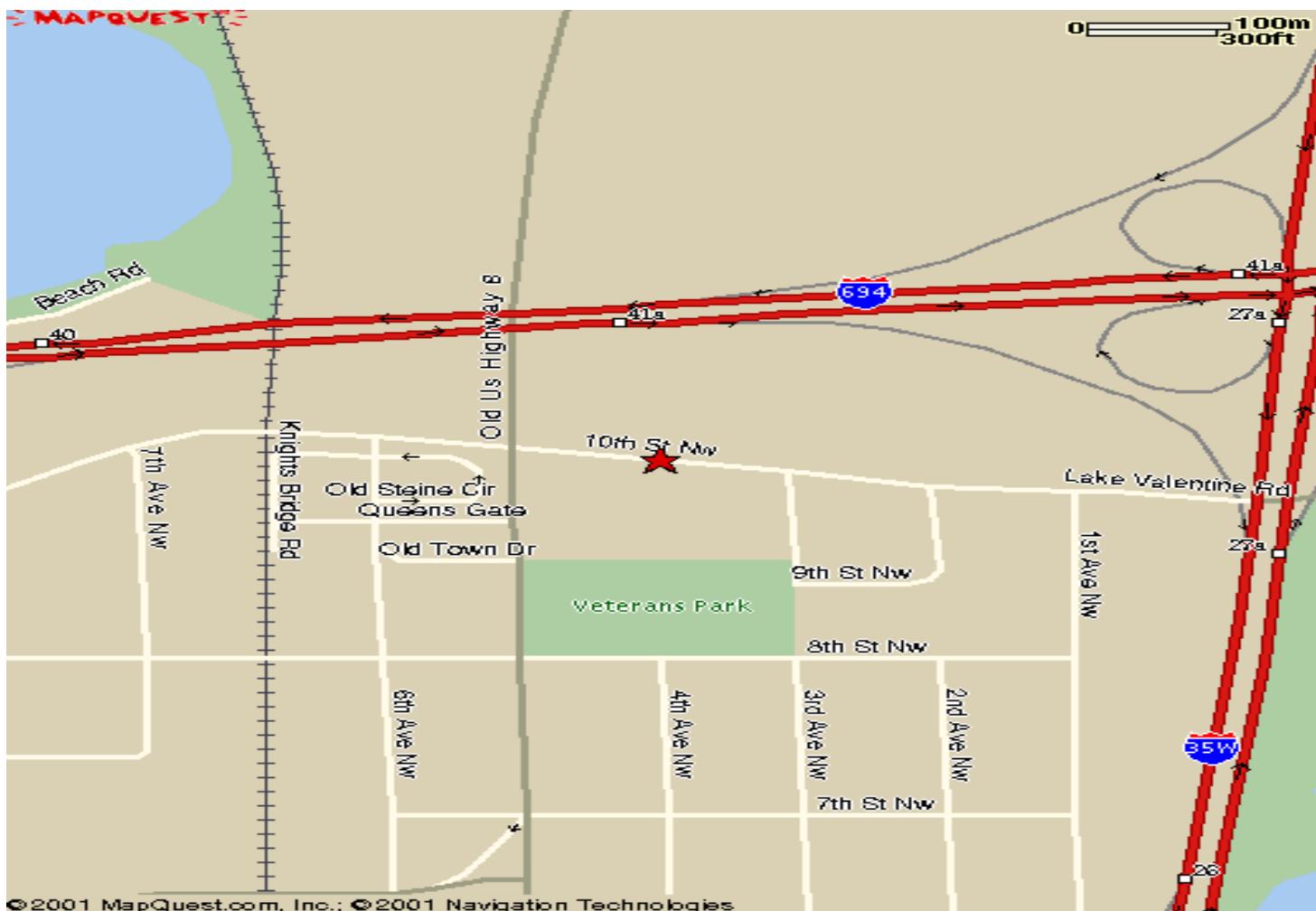
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Minnesota MUFON Journal
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